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Mass Communications Week
kicks off
See Lifestyles

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

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It's science!



ANDY RATHNOW/ALESTLE

Belleville resident Mike Munie discusses his daughter Mary Munie's project titled "The Gravity Acceleration Test" with Levi Pinkley, of Holliday Shores, in the Meridian Ballroom Friday. Children's science projects were entered in the IJAS Regional Science Fair during the weekend.

Student aid at risk; senator urges action

SCHALENE HOUSTON
NEWS STRINGER

As far as U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin is concerned, students will have to pay more to borrow.

Durbin visited SIUE Wednesday to warn students of the dangers with the loan systems.

"The cost of the college education has gone up dramatically," Durbin said.

He said various people determine the conditions and terms of the loans, such as congressmen, senators and members of the House of Representatives.

"The first thing we've decided is we're going to increase the limits on the amount of money you can borrow. Secondly, we're going to eliminate some of the origination fees, which are like start up costs on these loans," Durbin said. "But then comes the kicker, the financial institutions, the ones that offer the most of these loans ended up being very powerful in Washington, D.C. and as a result they put in two provisions."

Durbin said the provisions include consolidating loans

before July 1 and an interest rate of 6.8 percent was imposed on student loans.

"You didn't even know it happened. We just increased the cost," he added.

"We did it because institutes have too much clout in Washington and we're not hearing from you."

Director of Student Financial Aid Sharon Berry said some federal assistance has not received an increase in years. The Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, one example Berry gave, has not received additional funding in six years.

Freshman accounting major Jacob Presley and freshman elementary education major Antonette Green both argued on behalf of the federal assistance and unsubsidized loans that have helped them remain at SIUE.

Durbin said these plans do not have to be implemented if students will take the time to make a change.

"What I've just announced has not been etched in stone for all time," he said. "It is a law that can be changed, if you think it

see DURBIN, page 4

New res hall going green

MELANIE MEYER
NEWS STRINGER

Resident upperclassmen and graduate students will soon have a new place on campus they can choose to call home, for it now has a name.

Evergreen Hall will be the newest addition to SIUE's residence halls.

It is hoped the building will alleviate some of the population pressure on-campus housing has felt.

"Last year, we had over 300 students on a waitlist that we couldn't accommodate," Housing Director Mike Schultz said.

"With the new hall, we will be able to handle the demand we have now and in the future and meet the housing needs of our upperclassmen."

The new building, which will be completed by fall 2007, will bring the total number of on-campus residents to more than 3,500.

The construction will

include the 511-bed hall as well as a 550-space parking lot.

Evergreen Hall will be located at the southwest corner of Circle Drive and Whiteside Road near Bluff Hall and will house only upperclassmen and graduate students who wish to live closer to the campus core than Cougar Village.

The "apartment-style" units will be similar to those of Cougar Village, Schultz said, but the private bedrooms at Evergreen Hall will be larger.

The units will also have full kitchens and the same security in place as other residence halls.

Schultz said the name was chosen by the Science Department and the Residence Housing Association because of the number of evergreen trees found on campus, as well as the fact the building itself is shaped like the letter E.

However, the E-shaped building is not related to the new "e" campaign, Schultz said.

"It's really just a coincidence," Schultz said. "The design was out before the 'e' campaign."

Schultz said rates for rooms in Evergreen haven't been determined yet because they are dependent on the final cost of construction.

He added, however, that staying in Evergreen Hall will probably be more expensive than the other residence halls.

Schultz said the recent proposed \$305 increase per semester in rental rates for Bluff, Prairie and Woodland Halls is not related to the construction of Evergreen Hall.

"The increases before the board of trustees are an inflation increase, and they are tied to the renovations we did a summer ago," Schultz said.

Schultz added that construction of the new building, slated to begin in the summer, shouldn't affect commutes to the campus.

Director leaves academic legacy

ELIZABETH SCHMITT
NEWS STRINGER

Many students may not know him, but all can thank Student Academic Review and Assessment Founder and Director Doug Eder for adding to the quality of their education.

Eder, an Edwardsville resident and SIUE employee for 31 years, will step down August 31. He plans to move on to Arizona State University where he will work in the Department of University Evaluation and the Center for Teaching Excellence.

"It is time," Eder said about his retirement decision.

Eder, a graduate of the College of Wooster in Ohio, began his tenure at SIUE in the Biology Department. As a neuroscientist, he taught pre-med, pre-dental and pre-nursing courses.

He then launched the Academic Review and Assessment Program. Eder was the first full-time founding director and attributed knowledge of a similar program practiced at the College of Wooster since 1947.

According to Eder, the program's purpose is to examine the quality of undergraduate studies. It can be seen as a check-



ANDY RATHNOW/ALESTLE

Student Academic Review and Assessment Founder and Director Doug Eder helps Ohio State University physics professor Kathy Harper prepare for a presentation Monday. Eder is retiring in August after 31 years with the university.

and-balance system to ensure students receive a more than qualified degree.

A history of program accomplishments include the Senior Assignment, initiated in 1992, the first residence hall built in 1993-94 and the Assessment

Scholars Program, which took place for nearly two years in the late 1990s.

The Senior Assignment requires every student to complete an in-depth project that reflects his or her

see EDER, page 4



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BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY

Senate hears athletics proposals

**HOLLY MEYER
NEWS STRINGER**

SIUE athletics is considering a transition from NCAA Division II to Division I, as indicated at Friday's Student Senate meeting.

Guest speaker Brad Hewitt, Intercollegiate Athletics, said all students will benefit from this transition because it will advertise SIUE.

"The more people that know about your institution, the more your diploma is worth," Hewitt said.

The men's soccer, softball and baseball teams are ready to "compete on a national level immediately," Hewitt said.

However, he said the men's and women's golf and tennis

teams are the "furthest away competitively [for Division I]."

Student Body President Cindy Holesko said she had no opinion at the moment on the possible switch. She said she is "waiting to see what happens" with the SIUE Athletics Task Force first.

Other changes are happening on campus, according to Morris University Center Director Mary Robinson.

Members of the senate applauded when Robinson said that starting in the fall, Starbucks will stay open until 2 a.m., instead of its current midnight closing time. She was pleased with the new hours because they coincide with the closing of the residence halls.

Robinson also discussed

Textbook Rental's new program.

She said students will be able to purchase, at a 50 percent discount, the textbooks that have not been adopted by the departments before the university sells them to used book companies.

"Students can buy the books at any time," Robinson said.

The Student Senate approved the travel request for Eta Sigma Gamma. The constitutions for the Students and Professors Exploring All Cultures, Bluff Hall Council, the SIUE Running and Jogging Club and the Fellowship of English Education Students and Teachers were also approved.

The next Senate meeting is at 2 p.m. Friday, April 7 in the MUC's Goshen Lounge.

Second candidate praises improvement



ANDY RATHNOW/ALESTLE

Provost candidate Kathleen Rountree speaks to SIUE faculty Monday at an open interview in the Morris University Center's Hickory-Hackberry Room. Rountree is the second of three provost candidates to visit the university in the final round of interviews.

**AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS REPORTER**

The next prospective candidate for SIUE's Provost position answered questions for a crowd of faculty.

Kathleen Rountree, who is currently Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education at the University of North Carolina, spoke Monday morning.

She has a bachelor's in music from East Carolina University and a master's degree in music she earned from SIUE in 1976. She also holds a doctorate in music from Florida State University.

She said that although she was a graduate student at SIUE and was focused mainly on her work, she believes the university has improved since the 1970s.

"This campus has come a

very long way," Rountree said. "The school is going in a great direction."

She said that she got into administration after trying to get things changed and being frustrated when she was a faculty member.

"I realized that administration is not the opposite of teaching, that administration can facilitate teaching," Rountree said.

Rountree said that she believes in three core principles for a university to follow.

Her first principle relates to the value of education.

"Higher education is a value to the community," she said. "I believe, with all my heart, that higher education is the answer to all the world's problems."

"No other country in the world relies on universities for

research the way the U.S. does," she added.

Her second belief is that a university should allow all ideas to be expressed freely.

"We must create a world where differing ideas can come together in the marketplace," Rountree said.

She said her third belief is no individual can truly get things done properly.

"I believe strongly in a shared governance environment," she explained. "Collaborative wisdom is the most important type of wisdom we can bring."

Provost Search Committee Chair and philosophy professor John Danley, said that the selection for SIUE's new provost will be decided within a few weeks after the last meeting.

"We have another (meeting) Wednesday night," Danley said.

State review examines programs

AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS REPORTER

Nine programs will be examined by faculty volunteers as part of a state-mandated program review.

Nursing, philosophy, liberal studies, computer science, physics, civil engineering, electrical and computer engineering, industrial engineering and mechanical engineering will be reviewed for the 2006-07 academic year.

The selected programs are chosen by the state beforehand and are picked as part of a review cycle.

The review takes longer at SIUE than other state institutions.

"At our university, we take

two years, not one," Director of Undergraduate Assessment and Program Review Douglas Eder said. "We ask the question, 'Are we doing what we're supposed to be doing?' and, 'Are we doing what we're here for?'"

The program review involves a questionnaire and surveys of faculty and students, interviews, investigations into department quality, inspections and budget examinations, among others.

"We at the university take it very seriously and we have a history of doing that for years," Eder said.

The purpose of the reviews is to determine which programs might be struggling. Eder said that even though there have been programs that were canceled

because of the review, it is far more common for the programs to receive necessary assistance and improvements.

"It's not so much a pass/fail," Eder said.

For example, Eder said that a few years ago the psychology program was puzzled by a lack of proficiency coming from its students. Following a review, the program improved so much they won an "Award for Institutional Progress and Student Learning" from the Council for Higher Education and Accreditation on March 17. SIUE was one of four universities in the country to win the award, Eder said.

Eder sent an e-mail to faculty and staff said that the

see REVIEW, page 4

Film viewing and discussion Wednesday

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

Students and faculty are invited to join SIUE music professors Wednesday for a viewing and discussion of the documentary, "A Great Day in Harlem."

The Academy Award-nominated documentary will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Lovejoy

Library's Abbott Auditorium.

According to a press release, "the documentary, narrated by Quincy Jones, is a compilation of nearly 30 interviews from the 57 top jazz musicians in New York City during the year of 1958. Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey and Sonny Rollins were among those interviewed."

The musicians were

assembled for photographer Art Kane, who took the photo "A Great Day in Harlem," the film's namesake.

Following the presentation, SIUE music professors Rick Haydon and Reggie Thomas will lead a discussion on the film.

For more information, contact Thomas at 650-5038 or rthomas@siue.edu.

Police Incidents

Traffic

3-17

Police issued Wesley Nolden III a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Jamie Cox a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Brian C. Garner a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Jiri Nemec a citation for expired registration on University Drive.

Police issued Richard S. Williams a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Charnai L. Love a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on Residence Drive near Woodland Hall.

Police issued Karl J. Schmid a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police arrested Danielle L. Oshia for driving with a suspended license on Cougar Lake Drive.

3-18

Police issued Joseph L. Bauman a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on North University Drive.

Police arrested Jeffrey T. Hornberger for driving with a suspended license at the former site of the Mississippi River Festival.

Police arrested Eric Brian Keck for driving with a suspended license on South University Drive. Keck was also issued a citation for tinted windows.

Police arrested Justin Dixon for tampering with a smoke detector in Cougar Village.

Police issued Cynthia N. Whorley a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on Cougar Lake Drive.

Police issued Michelle A. Boone a citation for speeding on North University Drive.

Police issued Ryan M. Branson a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on Cougar Lake Drive.

3-20

Police issued Gretchen Richoux a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on Circle Drive.

3-21

Police issued Bryan R. Garrett a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle for South University Drive.

Alcohol

3-19

Police arrested Brandon Kircher for possession of alcohol by a minor and Sean Stacey for consumption of alcohol by a minor on South University Drive.

Other

3-20

Police arrested Jermaine Bell on a Madison County warrant in relation to child support and a Pontoon Beach warrant for failing to appear on an uninsured motor vehicle charge.

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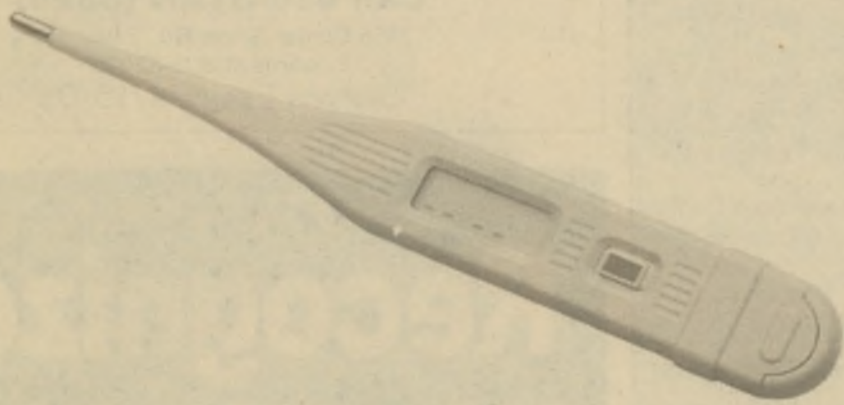
First prize is an iPod-nano. Second prize is a SIUE sweatshirt.

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DURBIN

from page 1

needs to be changed.”

Durbin encouraged students to visit Web sites and do their own research about the financial

institutions.

For more information, visit www.studentloanjustice.org or www.uspirg.org.

EDER

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academic major.

Eder said the greatest benefit of the Senior Assignment is to grant students the opportunity “to graduate, regardless of discipline ... and achievement rather than an aptitude.”

The Assessment Scholars Program reviewed undergraduate learning for nearly two years. Professional scholars of philosophy and speech and educational leadership corresponded with students to produce a portfolio that would include a syllabus, all written assignments, tests, an attitude survey on student satisfaction and an essay reflecting the experience.

The project's goal was to estimate how students learn in relation to how teachers teach, to learn student's feelings and to evaluate writing skills.

Eder said he felt the program's participation in the Academic Quality Improvement Program aided in its success. As members, they can decide how to be evaluated with their questions for reaccreditation.

Eder credits the advantage for SIUE's honor in “U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Colleges.” SIUE is recognized for Senior Capstone in a class of 15 schools, including Duke and Harvard.

“It's been fun to watch the

flowers grow,” Eder said of his favorite aspect of his role as director.

Throughout his reign as director, 10 faculty members have been sent to the University of Prince Edward Island in Canada to participate in a summer program titled “Teaching in the Active Voice.” The faculty that engaged in the program returned to “transform the university.”

Eder noted this as a rewarding experience.

Eder said the most challenging task of leading the program was “absorbing the bullets of administrative decision.”

Future plans of the Academic Review and Assessment Program will be determined by the new director and the Provost. A search committee will decide on Eder's replacement.

Eder urged students to take advantage of the Undergraduate Research Academy. It is a program that gives students the opportunity to pursue extensive research in their major of interest with funding and support through a mentor's direction.

For more information, contact Eder at 650-2640, Cindy Scarsdale at 650-3647 or visit siue.edu/ura.

REVIEW

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reviews were looking for volunteers to assist with the program review. Each volunteer will be part of review teams consisting of five faculty members and two staff. The administration appraises the students and then allows them to work in reviewing the programs.

Eder said that a faculty and staff member's duty as a university citizen was volunteering.

“(It is) not something we draft faculty members to do,” he

said. “It is an expectation as faculty citizens to do.”

Eder said that unlike other institutions, the program review is pursued primarily by the faculty and not the administration.

“(There are) lots of committees around here, this is one of the important ones,” Eder said.

“Is there any payoff for taking to this? Yeah! SIUE is getting better and being recognized for it.”

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We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. However, great care will be taken to ensure that the message of the letter is not lost or altered.

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The Alestle
Campus Box 1167
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OPINIONS & EDITORIAL



TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

WWW.THEALESTLE.COM

5

Bush approval rating due to multiple mistakes

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (U-WIRE) – This week marked the third anniversary of the Iraqi invasion and conjured the obvious question, “How is it going?”

President George W. Bush claims that great progress is not being reported by American reporters, thus Iraq is not as bad as the average American may believe. Yet in the same breath, he concludes that American soldiers will remain in Iraq beyond his term ending in January 2009. But with the British drawing down their troop level to 17 percent of their total, the new question is, “Are the British and Americans in the same war?”

The Iraqi quality of life belies the president’s contention. Today, fewer families have electricity in Iraq than before the invasion. Less oil is produced than three years ago. Fewer have running water or sewage treatment. In fact, earlier this week, ABC News aired a spontaneous poll of Iraqi police standing at roll call. Asked for a show of hands of those who believe that they are worse off now than under Saddam’s rule, nearly two-thirds raised their hands for the camera in a less than

resounding moment from the local front-line defenders of Iraqi democracy.

A president generally loses support when the public perceives distrust, deceit, disgust, disappointment or disgrace. The president surely becomes paralyzed if the public assigns

aircraft carrier. He slipped to 42 percent approval after disgusting revelations of American soldiers’ treatment of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison. He further suffered declines last month to 39 percent and is now at only 31 percent approval.

Bush disappointed many by

adjustments. Bush would do well to use the Reagan model.

The virtue of the U.S. is that it is the beacon of freedom and shining envy of democracy. It must always exemplify those values. When the president objects to Sen. John McCain’s anti-torture language against the CIA, the president loses credibility. When part-time soldiers are forced to serve in a permanent war zone - beyond 2009 according to Bush - the quality of our mission suffers.

Long ago, democrats and most independents abandoned this president. Bush only has himself to blame for the republicans who are currently drifting away. As a rule, if at least 80 percent of republicans support Bush, his overall approval breaks 40 percent or higher. While history kindly treated Harry Truman after he left office, few compare Bush to Truman. Ironically, they look at the last president to find himself in such turmoil and who left his war for his successor to remedy - fellow Texan, Lyndon Johnson.

Gary Caruso
The Observer
Notre Dame

Digital self gaining emphasis over physical self

MINNEAPOLIS (U-WIRE) – I’ve been thinking about my “digital self.”

According to a recent glut of media coverage spearheaded by the work of American “techie sociologist” Sherry Turkle, your “digital self” is your computer-based personality - the composite of what you present via e-mail, chat and personal online sites, a cyber alter ego. However, researchers like Turkle argue that your virtual identity might be becoming less and less distinct from your actual persona.

It’s been more than 20 years since Turkle published her groundbreaking thesis, “The Second Self: Computers and the Human Spirit,” in which she predicted not only the imminent saturation of the computer culture, but also the onset of hackers, viruses and other consequences of massive computer-based interaction.

“Technology,” Turkle claimed in 1984, “catalyzes changes not only in what we do, but how we think.”

Today, Turkle, who is also a professor in the social studies of science and technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, particularly is interested in the

millennial generation.

These kids - the Kaiser Family Foundation calls them Generation M for being so media-hungry - are so fascinating to social scientists because they are the first demographic to have had the Internet and cell phones pervasive throughout their childhood.

The typical daily “media diary” of a Generation M boy or girl begins with a bit of breakfast TV or radio, followed by maybe a cursory glance at a newspaper (the only non-digitized information they might encounter voluntarily all day), and then it’s off to the duties of the day, no doubt plugged into music from their iPod en route to and between their activities. This, of course, is to say nothing of the hours they will log on the Internet and yap on their cell.

Everyone from grade-schoolers to venture capitalists is hooked by the lure of data. The differences with Generation M, neuroscientist Jordan Grafman said, are the long-term developmental consequences and stresses it can place on time with the family at home.

‘Kids that are instant messaging while doing homework, playing games online

and watching TV, I predict, aren’t going to do well in the long run,” Grafman said in an interview with Time Magazine.

Perhaps it’s obvious the digital age should so permeate our every waking moment. After all, as the great line of globalization goes, it’s bringing us closer together, right?

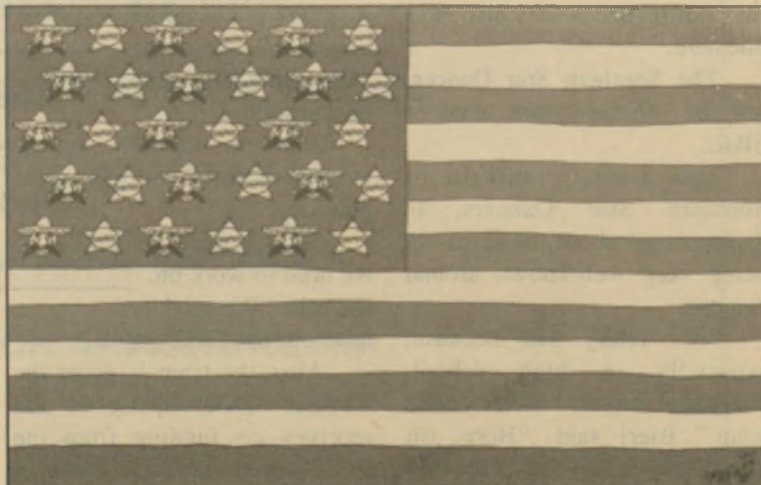
I find myself maintaining and keeping up my “digital self” nearly as much as I do my own physical body. I’ve noticed it in my peers, too. Whenever a friend’s relationship status changes (as in single or not single), it seems that the first

announcement of this news is on Facebook or MySpace. Weird. Humans spent tens of thousands of years creating a complex system of physical communication, from facial expressions to body language. Can we really replace all of that intimacy with e-mails and Web cams?

I don’t think so. Really, a snowball to the back of the head is about as instant a message one can receive.

Adri Mehra
Minnesota Daily
University of Minnesota

Political Cartoon



Campus prepares for annual 'Celebration of World Faiths'

MICHELLE LINCOLN
LIFESTYLES REPORTER

SIUE is preparing for its fourth annual Celebration of World Faiths this spring at the Religious Center, where several faiths will speak about their beliefs, practices and contributions to issues of human concern.

The Friends of the Religious Center are teaming up with the World Religions, Knowledge and Science group to host the event. WoRKS is a new science and religion initiative at SIUE and is one of 300 groups sponsored worldwide by the Metanexus Institute.

Greg Fields, philosophy professor and chair of both Friends of the Religious Center and WoRKS, said the theme of this year's event is science and religion. He said the event caps the College of Arts and Sciences annual Colloquium, with this year's focus on "Thinking About Religion."

"Our goal is to promote learning and fellowship, and to provoke thought and dialogue," Fields said.

Fields said a mixture of ethnic-themed appetizers will also be served during the celebration. This year, three traditions will be represented at the event: Christianity, Islam and Hinduism.

"Whether a person is inclined toward religion or not, religious study is a valuable lens on human history and society,"



KATY HARTWIG/ALESTLE

SIUE's Religious Center

Fields said.

Fields said it is also important for universities like SIUE to host such events, because it seems public universities try to avoid topics of religion.

"At this time in history, religion is becoming a major concern in both scholarship and public dialogue," Fields said. "We want to support scholarly dialogue on religion in its many forms and connections to human experience."

The event is free and open to the public, but tax-deductible donations are welcome. In

addition, free parking will be available in Lot B between the Morris University Center and the Religious Center.

Fields said several dozen students usually attend the event, especially those in Religious Studies courses, and feedback is positive.

"This is an intellectual event and also a social event," Fields said. "We have consistently received positive feedback from students who find the event both fun and informative. Often, students get valuable insights for their term papers, too."

Mass Communications showcased with events

JUSTIN GIBSON
LIFESTYLES REPORTER

The next four days at SIUE will feature a broad range of lectures and events as Mass Communications Week comes to campus.

The week will kick off on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Dunham Hall Room 2039 with a Panel Discussion with Tom Atwood of Tom Atwood Productions, Tom Calhoun of Calhoun Studios, Bob Kochan of Kochan & Company and Mark Motley of Seven Hills Corp.

According to Mass Communications Chair Patrick Murphy, Wednesday will be the highlighted day of the eventful week.

"Wednesday is the day with the most lectures, and we will also be having a hotdog roast in the TV Studio (Room 1012) in Dunham Hall at 12:15," Murphy said.

A lecture slated for Wednesday at 10 a.m. in Dunham Hall Room 2039 will feature Robert Jensen, a professor in the School of Journalism at the University of Texas at Austin.

Jensen will be giving a lecture entitled "Pornography And Power: Constructing Gender and Sexuality." Jensen was recently named by conservative author David Horowitz as one of the "101 Most Dangerous Academics in America."

"He can be confrontational, but not provocative," Murphy said. "He has strong beliefs, but they are all based on evidence."

Megan Lynch of KMOX Radio will put on a program called "Employment Contracts" at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday in Dunham Hall Room 1012.

Wednesday will come to a close as Robert Jensen will give another lecture called "We All Have Politics: Confronting The Attacks On Academic Freedom And An Independent University." The lecture will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

Jessica Brown of the Media Educator, Beverly Hacker of KDHX radio station, Lynne Lang of Barnes Jewish Center Healthcare School Outreach and Charles Murphy will put on a program titled "Media Literacy" at 9:30 a.m. Thursday in Dunham Hall Room 2039.

Thursday will also be the day for an Internship Fair from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Dunham Hall Theater Lobby.

The Mass Communications Week will wrap up at 6:30 p.m. on Friday with the "Alumni Evening" in Dunham Hall Room 1012.

Murphy expects a high turnout for the final event of the week.

"Alumni Evening usually brings over 90 people back to the department," he said. "Judy Landers and Mike Montgomery are retiring after this year, so it will be a chance to say goodbye and thanks. We will also be giving out awards within the department."

For more information on Mass Communications Week, call 650-2230.

Organization of the week

Dance team invites students to get to know the Southern Star Dancers

JESSICA MILLER
LIFESTYLES STRINGER

Some students attending SIUE may have had a dance team at their high school. What they may not realize is they also have one here.

The Southern Star Dancers are the official dance team of SIUE.

Lisa Bieri, co-captain of Southern Star Dancers, is disappointed about the team not being very well-known around campus.

"It's really sad because, especially in high school, everyone knows their dance team," Bieri said. "Here, (in

college) it's bigger. It's sad because you go from everybody knowing and people don't know here."

Bieri gave reasons for the lack of knowledge about team.

"We don't compete," she said. "We don't have that background..."

Another reason is the lack of publicity.

"It's a problem we need to work on," she said. "We need to have our own Web page..."

Also, the team is under the Kimmel Leadership Center and receives no funding from the

Athletic Department.

"We have to make our own money," she said. "We sell (everything from) magazines to selling little shaker poms at basketball games. We also do

"There are more people at games to see us. The stands used to be empty and it was crazy."

~Co-captain Lisa Bieri

back sales and had a little kids dance camp. It's difficult ... if we want any new uniforms, it's all on us."

But the team of nine girls is doing a lot to try to become better known. They perform at the men's home basketball games and other various school events such as "Bring Your Own Dance," which the Theater and Dance Department puts on. They also perform at Girl Scout camps and "little here and there things."

"The (basketball) games are bigger now," Bieri said. "There are more people at games to see us. The stands used to be empty and it was crazy. I hope I'm making it a step bigger."

Bieri explained how being on the dance team here is a bit different from other dance teams.

"We do everything from bits of ballet to jazz, to hip-hop to funk," Bieri said. "We do have a variety."

The Southern Star Dancers hold tryouts at the beginning of every fall semester.

"We typically hold tryouts the fourth or fifth week after school starts," Bieri said. "They're usually a week after sorority recruitment..."

The requirements are not easy to fulfill.

"It's more serious than it was before. We have stricter

see STAR, page 7

STAR

from page 6

regulations for girls to make it. They have to have a technical dance background, ballet and studio experience and technical dance for a number of years," Bieri said. "It would be good if they were on a high school dance team. They need to have a triple turn and a double turn and all their leaps, really technical things that we like to put in dances.

"They need to be versatile and they need to be able to go from ballet to jazz to funk ... during tryouts they learn two dances with different styles and they go in by themselves and perform in front of the judges. They also do technical aspects in front of them, too, so we can make sure the technical stuff is there," she added.

Even though tryouts are tough, Bieri emphasized that the team is fun.

"We're not crazy about it," she said. "It's not too hard to handle. We want it to be fun with commitment and to be

balanced."

In order to help keep it fun, the girls choreograph their own dances.

"We did this techno James Bond dance that was really neat and we did one to Missy Elliot and one from Celine Dion," she said. "It just totally varies with all the styles of dance that we do."

While two senior girls are captains right now, anyone can become captain, no matter their age or year in college.

"There are new captains every year," she said. "A freshman is going to be captain next year. We look at leadership and dance ability."

They usually practice two times a week and are at games on Thursdays.

Even though the team is working hard to get their name known, they have a long way to go.

"It's going to be bigger," she said, "But it's going to take time."

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Sports Quote of the Day

"It's the lack of faith that makes people afraid of meeting challenges, and I believe in myself."

~Muhhamad Ali



8

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TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

Can't be beaten SIUE win streak reaches 22

MAILLORY HENSLEY
SPORTS STRINGER

The SIUE women's softball team extended its winning streak to 22 games this weekend by dominating a set of double headers in Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

Taking the field for the first time in a week, the Cougars started off the weekend by taking down a red-hot opponent in a home game at Cougar Field. The University of Missouri-Rolla Miners kissed their 15-game string of victories goodbye as they bowed down to SIUE.

The Cougars, who began the season ranked seventh in the nation, climbed the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division II polls last week to No. 5. UMR was 19-1 overall as they went into Saturday afternoon's doubleheader.

The opening game settled at 3-2 in the Cougars' favor. SIUE scored an unearned run in the opening inning, as senior outfielder Shanna Waldo reached on an error by the Miners' first baseman. She went around the horn, stealing second and advancing to third on a sacrifice bunt by fellow senior Holly Neuerburg. Junior Libby Lenart put the ball in play, and Waldo crossed the plate.

UMR responded in the fifth, scoring both of its runs, while temporarily taking the lead. SIUE star hurler Sabra McCune walked two batters. UMR's Holly

Weinberg doubled with two outs, allowing teammates Amie Fugiel and Kandi Weiberg to score.

The Cougars tied the game as soon as they came back to the plate. Waldo tripled to right field,

"Rolla gave us a run for our money....That was the most we have been challenged in a while."

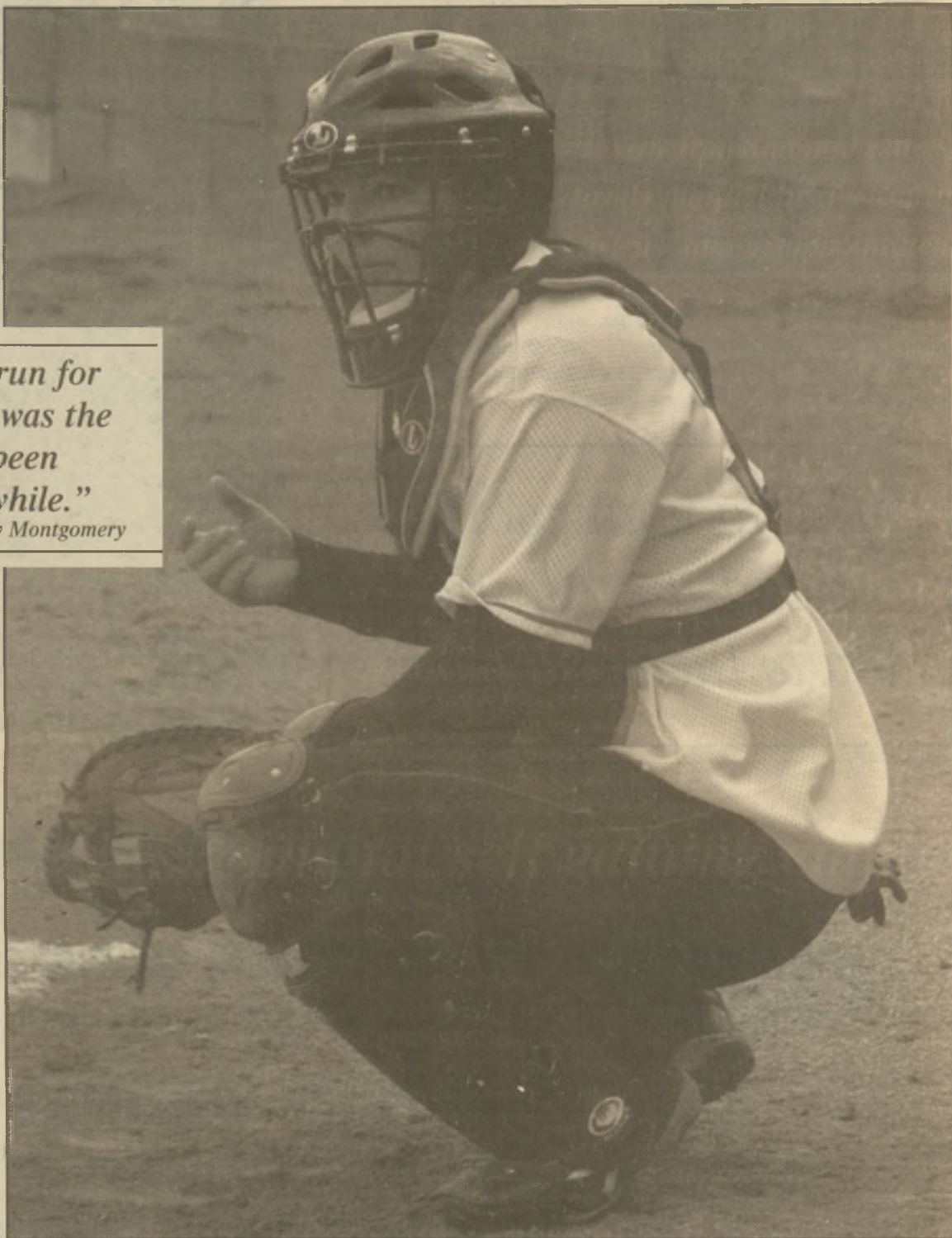
~SIUE Head Coach Sandy Montgomery

and later stole home. Waldo scored again in the seventh inning securing the win. Lenart drove the run in. UMR's Renee Roberts allowed five hits, suffering her first loss in her last nine appearances on the mound.

"Rolla gave us a run for our money in the first game. They hit the ball fairly well. They beat Southern Indiana on Sunday. They will give opponents a good game," SIUE Head Coach Sandy Montgomery said. "That was the most we have been challenged in a while. Neuerburg stepped up that last inning, which was really important for us."

SIUE freshman pitcher Kaitlin Colosimo tossed the second game, earning the 5-0 shutout. The Cougars' bats woke up in the second showing, notching nine hits off of the Miners' pitcher Jen O'Hara. The

see SOFTBALL, page 10



SIUE junior catcher Libby Lenart takes signs from the third-base coach during the Cougars' 3-2 win over the University of Missouri-Rolla Saturday at Cougar Field.

JEFF RULE/ALESTLE

Baseball team gets rocked by Rockhurst University

STEPHEN BUDNICKI
SPORTS STRINGER

The SIUE baseball team stumbled this past weekend against Rockhurst University, winning only one of a four-game series over the weekend.

The Cougars' started the first of a twin game series Saturday with a 1-0 shutout courtesy of pitcher Kyle Jones. Jones added another shutout and extended his record to 5-0. He closed the door on the Hawks, allowing only three hits and no walks in seven-innings pitched. Jones still hasn't allowed an earned run.



SIUE junior second baseman Michael DalPozzo watches a pitch go by.

KATIE GROTH/ALESTLE

"Jones is on quite a roll, it's been five straight weeks and he hasn't gave up a run. I hope it lasts 'til the season is over," SIUE Head Coach Gary Collins said. "But I know it won't."

In game one of the doubleheader, SIUE second basemen Michael Dalpozzo singled and scored an RBI for Jake Smith, who reached base on a fielder's choice play in the first inning. Smith sits third on the team with 11 RBIs.

Rockhurst started the second game with a vengeance, earning five runs off 12 hits.

see BASEBALL, page 10

Cougars end historic year

GEOFF SCHARDAN
SPORTS STRINGER

With one shot, dreams were shattered, magic faded away and an unprecedented basketball season came to an end.

The SIUE men's basketball team had its hopes of a first-ever NCAA Division II National Championship smashed by defending national champs Virginia Union University last week. Despite the loss, SIUE enjoyed its greatest basketball season in school history.

"For the coaches, guys and staff, this was as much fun as we could have," SIUE Head Coach Marty Simmons said of the 2005-06 season. "Guys came to work, though."

The game had everything imaginable in a close contest, including a last-second shot that won the game. Unfortunately for SIUE, however, the last-second heroics came from Virginia Union.

It was a tied game with ten seconds left. The Panthers missed a layup, but VUU's Buster Perkins got the rebound and put it up to give his team the win.

With one second left on the clock, SIUE had a chance, but junior guard Ty Johnson was unable to make the 14-footer.

"To get so close and be denied, it's not easy,"

Simmons said.

The Cougars had their chances to run away with the game, but were unable to put the nail in the coffin. Twice SIUE got out to a nine-point lead, but VUU made up the difference in a matter of minutes.

The Cougars were up by nine with 4 minutes, 33 seconds left in the first half, but lost all momentum when VUU went on a 11-3 run to end the half. SIUE was fortunate to be up by one at the half. SIUE went into the locker room up 33-32, thanks to freshman forward Nick Arth's 3-pointer with two seconds left in the half.

The Cougars also blew a nine-point lead with 8:25 left in the game. A 10-0 run gave the Panthers a 53-52 lead with 4:55 left. With 3:49 remaining, Johnson made a basket to put the Cougars up 56-53, but that was the last basket they would make.

Rebounding and free throws were what cost SIUE the game. The Cougars were out rebounded 39-32, which led to 15 second-chance points, while the Cougars only had six. The Cougars made all eight of their free throws, but that was not enough because the Panthers went 19 for 26.

Although the Cougars were unable to advance to the Final Four, they still accomplished a lot this season. They broke the SIUE

record for wins in a season with 25, and consecutive wins in a season at 16.

SIUE also had a strong defense, breaking the record for steals with 300, and forced turnovers with 575 in a season. The Cougars also broke the record for lowest opponents scoring average by .1 point, with a 60.9 average.

"We lost a great group of seniors last year, but these guys stepped it up and raised the bar," Simmons said.

Besides breaking team records, senior guard Ryan Belcher smashed the individual school record for steals in a season with 101 swipes this year. Belcher demolished the previous record of 62, which was held by Anthony Smith in the 1993-94 season. Belcher was also named to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Second Team.

When asked about losing Belcher, Simmons said, "He brought a dimension I never coached. He made offense out of his defense."

Senior forward Justin Ward finished a four-year career at SIUE. He was a key offensive weapon this season, leading the team in field goal and 3-point shooting percentage.

"Justin's been here as long as

see BASKETBALL, page 10



SIUE sophomore J.B. Jones works hard to elude a defender during a game against Quincy University at the Vadalabene Center.

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If you are interested, please call Paul Burden at 650-3248 and leave a message (name, phone). Someone will contact you about the date and time of the first meeting.

This meeting is being co-hosted by SIUE Counseling Services and United Campus Ministry. Al-Anon has no religious affiliation.

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See program at www.siu.edu/CAS/COLLOQUIA

SOFTBALL

from page 8

Cougars notched another first-inning run, with insurance runs in the third, fifth and sixth.

The Cougar's offensive powerhouse Alicia DeShasier singled through the left side, allowing Waldo to score in the opening inning. SIUE junior Emily Lenart homered to right field in the fifth, extending the Cougars' lead to 4-0. Waldo put the final nail in the coffin, scoring again in the sixth.

"We have been playing great defense," Montgomery said. "We only have 10 errors on the year. Knock on wood."

The team returned to the field Sunday at noon to take on Rockhurst University. Rockhurst was 8-12 going into the battle. The Hawks proved to be no match for the Cougars, who shut them out in both competitions.

McCune struck out 14 in the first game, allowing just one hit.

The offense had two big innings, scoring two runs apiece in the first and third. Neuerburg started the inning off by drawing a walk. DeShasier followed the walk with a one-out double. Libby Lenart walked, loading the bases. Rousey forced an error by the third baseman, hitting in the first run. Emily Lenart got the second RBI, hitting in DeShasier with a single to the left side. The Cougars added two more runs, both unearned, when DeShasier and Rousey scored two innings later.

Behind sophomore pitcher Lindsey Laas, the Cougars short-gamed the Hawks in the second event. Laas improves to 4-1 this season. SIUE scored three runs, coming out strong in the first. Sophomore Ashley Price doubled to left field, bringing home DeShasier and Neuerburg. Price crossed the plate to score the

third run herself.

DeShasier accounted for three more runs in the second, blasting a homerun. The Cougars picked up two more runs before the mercy rule kicked in, ending the game after six innings. Laas allowed just two hits. The final score of the game was 8-0.

"We played very well this weekend. We had great pitching once again, with two shutouts against Rockhurst," Montgomery said. "DeShasier was 2-3 with a double in the first game and in the second game she was 2-2 with a homerun. Everybody got to play today, and we had good performances off the bench."

The Cougars, now 25-3 overall and 6-0 in the GLVC, have a few days to rest before competing in the West Liberty State Tournament in West Virginia on Friday and Saturday.

BASEBALL

from page 8

SIUE pitcher Clay Zavada ended the game with a loss and dropped to a 2-2 record. After allowing two runs and walking three of his last batters, Collins decided to put SIUE pitcher James Hartel in, only to give up three more runs in their 5-1 loss against Hawks pitcher Andrew Sliver.

Going into Sunday's twin bill, the Cougars didn't look any better, losing 4-1 to Rockhurst in yet another disappointing loss.

Pitcher J.P. McGrath held the

Cougars to one run in seven innings, handing Cameron Cheek his first loss of the season. Cheek, 1-1, was relieved in the seventh inning by pitcher Patrick Keller to finish the game. Keller fanned three consecutive strikeouts to end the game with the Hawks.

SIUE just couldn't get the fire started, losing its third straight game of a four-game skid.

"I thought pitching was decent all weekend, we just didn't score any runs," Collins

said. "Pitching wasn't the problem. We've been in a team slump lately and we're just not taking good swings. I hope we get better, we can't get any worse."

The Cougars face Great Lakes Valley Conference top-ranked Quincy University at noon Tuesday at Roy E. Lee Field.

"They're not hitting much either," Collins said of Quincy. "They like to run, so we need worry about the run. I expect two more close games."

BASKETBALL

from page 9

me and it was good to see him develop into the man he became," Simmons said about Ward.

The Cougars are also losing senior guard Martel Mahon, who finishes a two-year career at SIUE, where he was a key part to

the success of the team.

"He worked his tail off and was a great leader," Simmons said.

There were also some individual awards that the Cougars received. Sophomore guard J.B. Jones was named to

the All-GLVC Second Team and to the All-Region Second Team. Ty Johnson was also named to the All-GLVC Second Team.

"The support we received this season and in the tournament was outstanding," Simmons said.



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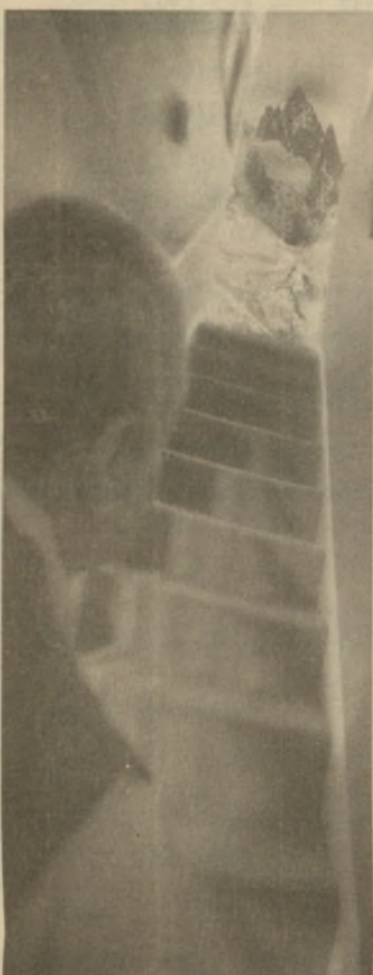
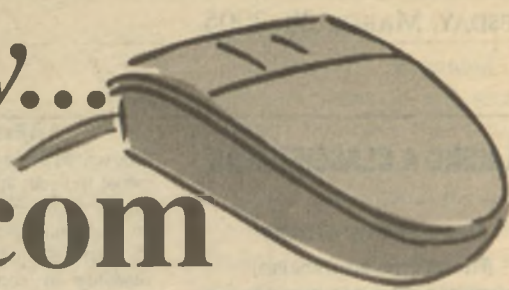
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